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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

Customer No.: 035811

Examiner

Serial No.

: 10/574,637

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PCT Filed Inventors

: October 12, 2004

: Kenji Kousaka

Docket No.: SSC-06-1067 Confirmation No.:

: Morihiko Imada

Title

: METHOD FOR CONTROLLING

: BRIGHT ANNEALING FURNACE

Dated: August 8, 2006

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Carol Coney

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We enclose a copy of an English translation dated July 6, 2006 of the Written Opinion of the

International Searching Authority for the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

T. Daniel Christenbury

Reg. No. 31,750

TDC/cc

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